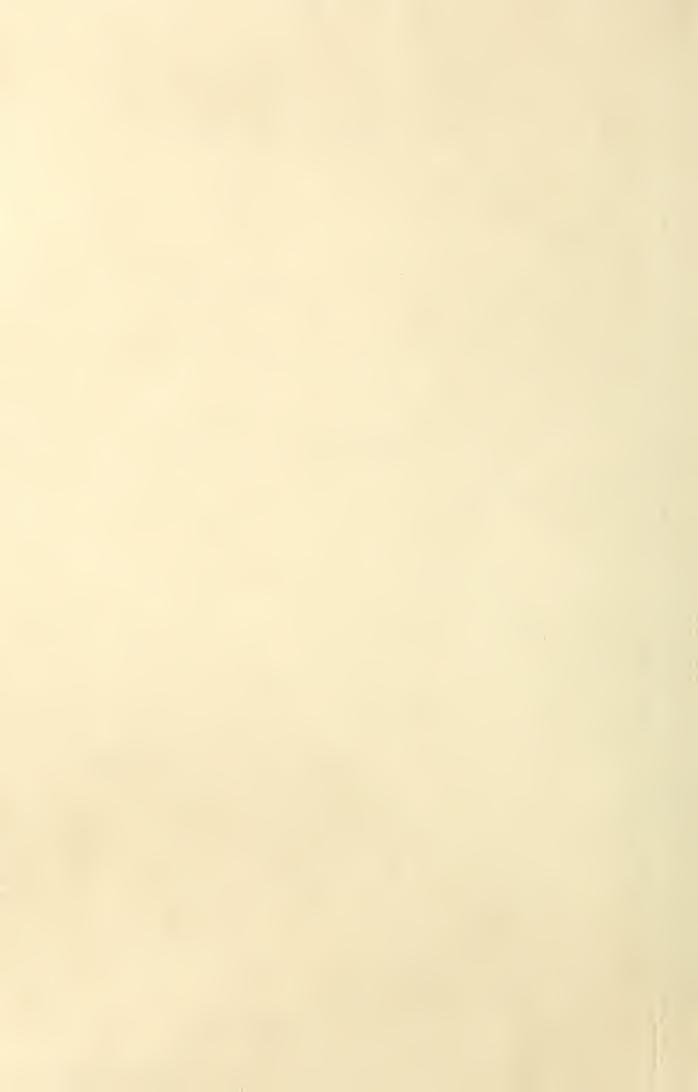
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Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



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"Western Treasure -- Deep, Wet Snow"

### FEDERAL-STATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS AND IRRIGATION WATER FORECASTS

for

### RIO GRANDE DRAINAGE BASIN

APRIL 1, 1948

By

Division of Irrigation, Soil Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture
and
Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, State Engineers of Colorado and New Mexico and other Federal, State and local organizations.



### April 1, 1948 WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK RIO GRANDE AND CANALIAN DRAINAGE BASINS

The outlook fof water supply in irrigated areas served by the Rio Grande and its tributaries is good to excellent. Snow water content on some courses is twice that measured a year ago. Soil moisture penetration in San Luis Valley and northern New Mexico is very good. Reservoir storage in New Mexico is low but will be higher at season's end. Similar snow conditions exist over the headwaters of the Pecos and Canadian Rivers. Soil moisture is extremely deficient in the Carlsbad area.

### RIO GRANDE

Snow cover in the San Luis valley as shown by April 1 snow surveys is well above normal on most courses. On the main stem of the Rio Grande and Alamosa Rivers, the prospects for summer runoff are unusually good. The snow is gone from the valley floor but the foothills are still snow covered, with heavy snow at medium elevations. The deficiency of snow at Cumbres Pass still exists but the flow of the Conejos river will be ten percent in excess of normal. For streams originating on the west slope of Sangre de Cristo range the summer runoff will be about 20 percent over last year. Precipitation in the valley has been much above average during the winter months. Soil moisture penetration is good. Stream flow is above normal. Reservoir storage is about average and much above April 1, 1947. Discharge of the Rio Grande above Del Morte is expected to be \$50,000 acre-feet as compared to 530,000 during the 1947 season.

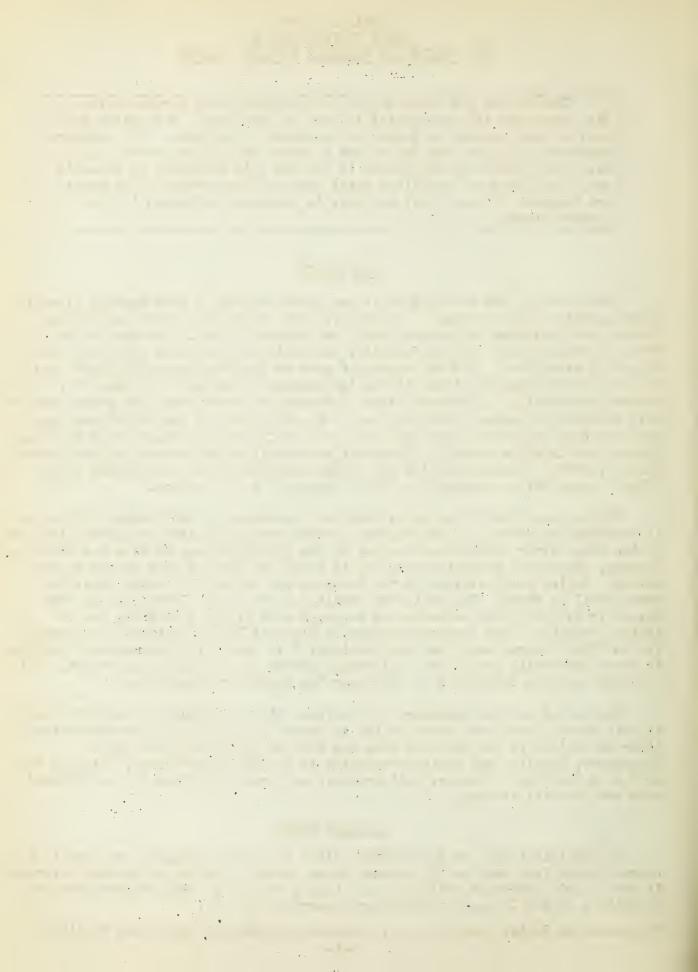
Similar snow conditions exist over the headwaters of Rio Grande tributaries in northern New Mexico. A deficiency in snow cover does exist at higher elevations on the Chama River at Cumbres Pass and on the Divide between El Rito and Canjilon. However, relatively heavy low snow should bring the flow of this stream to near normal. Valley precipitation in the Northern and Middle Rio Grande areas has been normal or above. Soil moisture conditions are good. Storage in El Vado Reservoir is now 26,800 acre-feet as compared with 41,000 a year ago but is filling rapidly. The combined storage in Elephant Butte and Caballo reservoirs is now 574,000 acre-feet, last year on April 1 it was 775,000 acre-feet. Storage in these reservoirs should be considerably higher at the end of the season. Soil moisture and crop conditions in the lower Rio Grande area are normal.

Snow cover on the headwaters of the Pecos River, Tesuque and Santa Fe Creeks is well above normal and substantially in excess of April 1947. Precipitation at lower elevations in the Santa Fe area has been above normal. Storage in Alamogordo, McMillan and Avalon reservoirs is now 41,600 acre-feet, which is the same as a year ago. However, soil moisture and crop conditions in the Carlsbad area are reported as poor.

### CANADIAN RIVER

On the tributaries of the Canadian River the water stored in the snow is 100 percent above last year and 50 percent above normal. Storage in Conchas reservoir is now 371,000 acre-feet, slightly more than a year ago. Soil moisture and crop conditions on the Tucumcari project are described as good.

Miscellaneous Series Paper No. 400, Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station.



RIO GRANTE DRAINAGE BASIN

STREAM FLOW FORECASTS, April 1, 1948

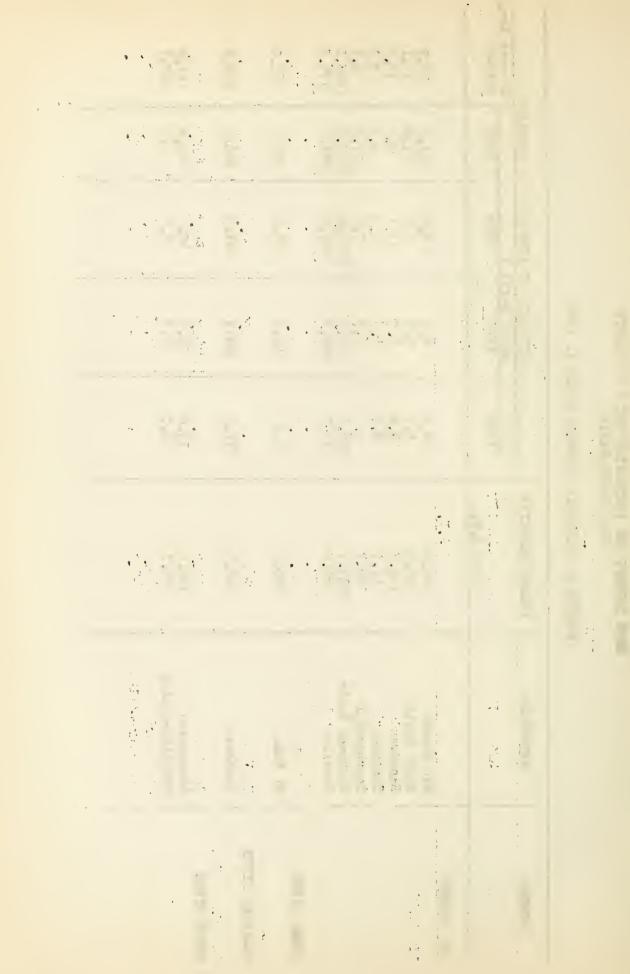
	April-September,	inclusive, Streamflow	- 1	Thousands Acre Feet	+
Basin and Stream	Forecast 1948	Measured Runoff	10	1945	10-year avg.
RIO GRANDE					1771-1740
South Fork at South Fork	175,000		132,000	123,000	128,600
Rio Grande at Del Norte	850,000	530,000	347,000	467, coo	550,000
Alamosa above Terrace Res.	110,000	68, 500	39,500	77,000	77,000
Conejos at Mogote	250,000	176,000	124,600	221,000	225,000
Culebra at San Luis	50,000	7,000	16,000	39,000	32,000
Chama at Park View	225,000		79,000	243,000	246,000
Taos at Los Cordovas	85,000			65,000	η6, cco
Embudo Creek at Dixon	135,000		18,000	65,000	99
Rio Grande at Otcwi Bridge	1,200,000		204,000	874,000	000,096
Rio Grande at San Marcial	1,050,000		57,000	593,000	805,000
Pecos at Pecos	120,000		24,720	000,69	71,000



SNOW SURVEYS AND IRRIGATION MATTER FORECASTS RIO GRANDE BASIN

STATUS OF RESERVOIR STORAGE, APRIL 1, 1948

STREAM	RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY		THOUSANDS O	THOUSANDS OF ACRE FEDT IN STORAGE	IN STORAGE	
		1000 A.F.	1948	About April	1 1 1946	1945	10-year Ave.
RIO GRANDE							
	Rio Grande	45.8	24.2	6,9	t 9	7.12	16.9
	Santa Maria	102.0	700	101 101	7.5	11,8	10,1
	Terrace	17.7		, c	1,01	7,4	7 0 2
	Continental	26.7	• 1	7,4	7.0	17.7	200
	Elephant Butte	2273.7	397.6	512,3	1029,9	1223.9	1169.1
	ognario	20260	. 0.971	رور <b>•</b> ه	C+1+2	281.0	T (4°5
CHAMA RIVER		, -, 4					
	El Vado	226.0	26.8	0*14	92.6	98.6	62.0
CANADIAN RIVER	Conchas	Q*009	371.0	6,495	341.5	5,945	9 920
		*					•
PECOS RIVER	Alamogordo	148.0 1E:1	35,6	35.6	0,0tl	45.	61.9
	nentral waron	7 • 0+	•	• i	) • <u>•</u>	0.00	) • >>



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## SNOW SURVEYS AND IRRIGATION MATTER FORECASTS

for RIO GRANDE BASIN April 1, 1948

# SUMMARY OF APRIL 1 SNOW SURVEYS AND COMPARISON OF DATA WITH THAT OF PREVIOUS YFARS BY

WATERSHEES

	Snow	Snow Depth		Water	Water Content		Number	Sno	Snow Density	À	1948 Mater Content in	ntent in
	Twel ve			Twelve			Courses	Twelve			percent of	0.0
WATERSHEDS	year	1947	1948 Year	Year	1947	1948	in		1947	1948	Twelve Year	
	Avg. *		7	Avg.*			Average	Avg. *	,	\	Ave. *	1947
	In	In.	In。	In.	In.	In		Percent	Percent	Percent		
Rio Grande	27.7	18.5	38.7	9.3	6.2	12,4	22	4,5	34		133	200
Unver Rio Grande	0.04		59,6 13,3	13.3	9.1	20,5	2	33	33	7.	154	225
Alamosa River	21.4	13,3	35.3	5.9	3,2	10,3	-	28	た	, <del>2</del>	175	322
Conejos River	1,45.8		140 64	16,2	9.7	15,6	2	35	34	32	26	161
Culebra River	35.5	37.7	41,3	10.9	11.4	13.7	Н	31	30	33	126	120
Chama River	37.1		39.8	13,6	0.6	13,8	5	37	36	35	101	153
Rio Taos	19.9		34.5	6,9	0.6	6,6	٠!	35	51	33	143	110
Embudo Creek	29.8	_	6°44	9.5	6.3	12,2	2	31	30	27	133	193
Pecos River	13,2	2,0	26.6	7,2	9 0	7.6	~	32	30	29	181	1268
Canadian River	22,5	16,8	36.5	7.0	5,2	10.5	<b>+</b>	31	31	· 81	150	202
*Como for about on sons	E Como co											

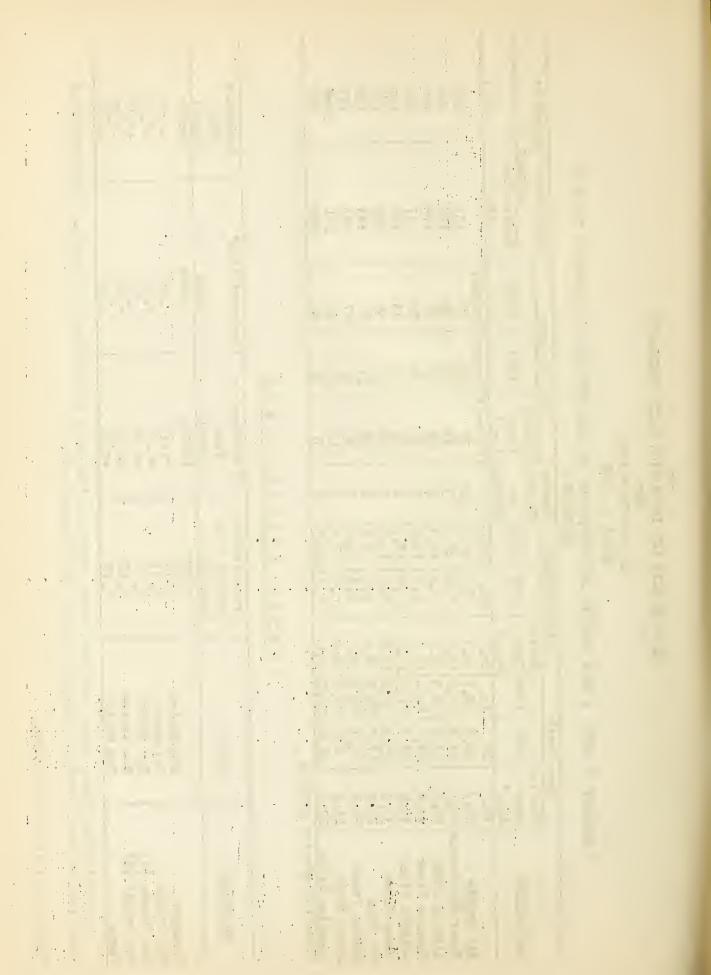
Some for shorter periods

### PRECIPITATION DATA

	Precipitation	Levarture	Precipitation*	Leparture	1
	October 1 to	from		from	
	March 31	Normal	March	Normal	
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	1
20 tx	5,75	72. 14	8	77 04	
do	77.00	1 CT	1 1 1	^ C	
New Mexico	7.76	* c'		10.01	
New Mexico	1,17	65 °UT		1. CI 1	
New Mexico	82°ii	77.04	C) (C)		
7	New Mexico Colorado New Mexico New Mexico New Mexico		March 31 N Inches I 5.75 7.36 4.17	March 31   Normal   Normal	March 31   Mormal   March

The accumulated Frecipitation during March was above normal except on the Pecos and Southern Rio Grande. precipitation since October 1 was above normal on all water heds,

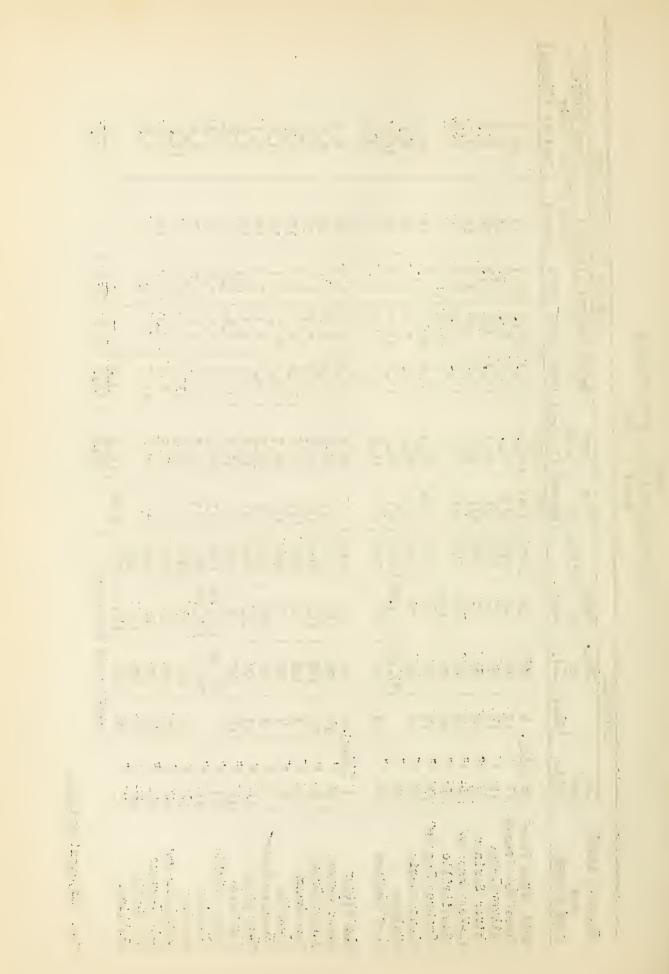
\*March precipitation tentative.



-5-SICT STEAM STOR SURVEYS April 1, 1948

	S.T.	Fast Record	10	42	1	29, 7		, m	U.C.	7.1	8,7	)	25.2		H (	D'.1	3.2	8,7	6,9	3,9	6.7	27.9	5,7	70,	かっか	, √,	8,6	13,0	2,2	9,0			9.3
	IL ASUPLANTS	Inches)	Years of	Record		13	77	0	77	12	13	١	13	, ,	7	77	0,	12	12	12	12	12	12	11	0)	.0	\ <u> </u>		12	_		<b>г</b> -1	
	200			39461		12,7	0		۲ . ا	9,1	6"4	12,2	10,7	· c	ا د د	t. U.*	0,0	1.3	3,2	7	7,2	12,1	0.3	2,1	3,5	ر ا ا	2,0	10,0	0°0	3.1			Z 20
	23	Content		1947		2n. 7	7 7	7	7 "	2,4	ເສ	18,2	15,2	ر ر ر	֝֟֝֝֝֟֝֝֟֝֟֝֟֝֟֝֟֝֟֝֟֝֟֝֟֝֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֓֟֝֟֓֓֓֓֓֓	+, 11	င္						0	3,3	7,00	C °C	2,4	9.3	0,3	0.7		!!	6,2
		Water		1948		39.3	14, 3	200	C.O.	000	1); 6	1	21.6	ر الا	7 (0)	T_0 (	50	ပ <b>ိ</b>	6.6	17	17,4	14,3	07	5,0	15,1	5,2	12,6	15,2	4,8	10,7		3.9	12.4
		Snorr	Depth	(Inches)	APATON	0.901	11.17	75 7	700	32,9	42,6		65,9	7 27		41.5 C	15,0	 29.0	34,5	22,7	42,5	1,04	30,3	37.2	45,8	10,0	36,3	27.0	26,5	30.8	1	12,9	38,7
;		Date	of	Survey.	F CIE	3/31	30	1,7	1 / /	4/1	4/1	•	2/29	7/20	2/1	T/+,	<del>+/+</del>	4/1	1/1	4/2	1/1	4/1	14/1	14/1	1+/1		4/3		1/1	7/5		3/28	
			Eleve			1000uT	9350	000	0.00	9300	9300		11570	700		_	3200	 9500	0006	9100	9050	9500	9500	0006	9700	7750	8500	10100	8300	10000	8250	8700	0
		Range	OL	Long.		Ħ	Mil	E	1.	3	TO17	11500	国	TAC.	110	TOD. CM	721	E	151	[5]	틷	<b>B</b>	B <sub>1</sub>	12000	P	106,7W	106, 7W	1亿	12,	113	111	1)E	Drainag
100.	OE	TWD	or	Lat.		377	101	1617 11617		<b>5</b> 分别	288	371	321	7	77 0.1	7100	291	281	251	181	18N	252	SSN	221	281	36.9回	36, 9M	221	19M	18N	181		ge for
TOUTOUT	1-5001			Sec.		<b>#</b>		. T.	7 1	<u></u>	22	30	17	80	)		13	 80	10	12	7	<b>☆</b>	80	23	16			25	27	17	∞	31	Average
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		DRAINAGE BASIN	and	SLOW COURSE		Wolf Creek Pass	Upper Rio Grande	Silver Lakes		Kiver Springs	LaVeta Pass #2	Summitville	Cumbres Pass #2			carenta	Fort Garland	Red River	Taos Canyon	Aspen Grove	Lee Ranch	Canjilon	Hematite Park*	Tres Ritos	Pay Role	Chama Divide	Chamita	Cordova	Panchuela #2	Big Tesuque	Elk Cabin	Gallinas	

\*On adjacent drainage



-6-RIO CRANDE DRAINAGE SWOW SURVEYS April 1, 1948

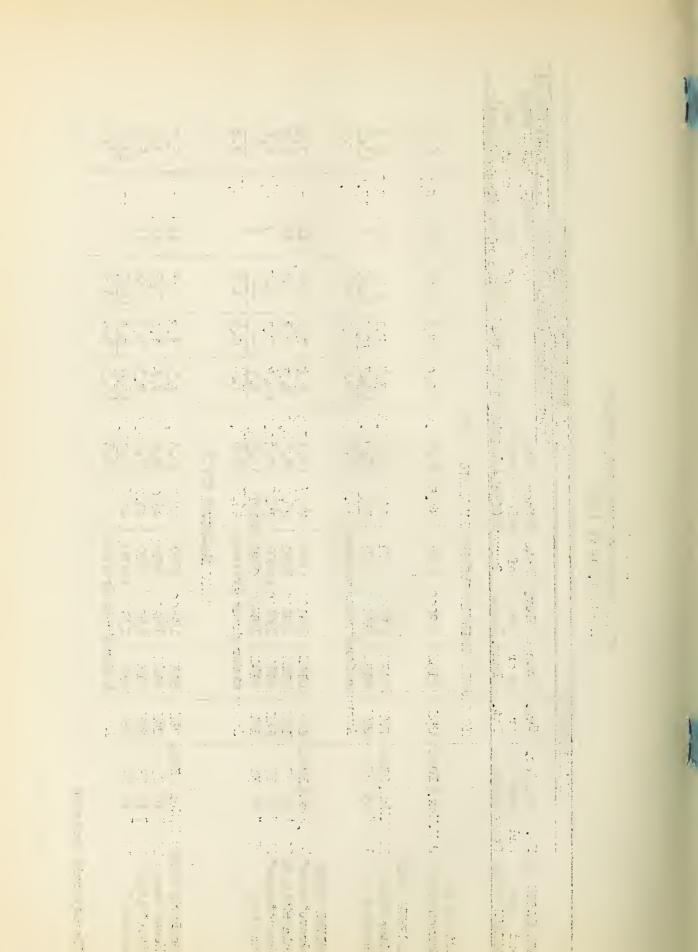
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DRAINAGE BASIN	- NO		TWD	Range		Date	Snow			-	Years	Av. Water
and	and	Sec.	or	or	Elev.	of	Dep th				of	
SNOW COURSE	State		Lat.	Long.		Survey	(Inches)	1948	17947	1946	Record	(Inches)
			RIO	GRANDE O		TRIBUTARIES	IN SAN LU	LUIS VALLEY	XE			
UPPER RIO GRANDE			*							en de la company		
Wolf Creek Pass	26 Colo.		37N	뛵	10000		0.901	20, 7	20 7	127	72	7 00 7
Upper Rio Grande	27 #	13	MOH	Mt	9350		274	ンド・カー	- t	م	7 1 1	- 0
Santa Maria	# 08	100	NIT.	N	9700	3/30	28,7	8 0	0 %	000	101	7.7
			Avera	age for	drainag	0)	59.6	20,5	1,6	6.3		13.3
ALAMOSA RIVER										,		
Silver Lakes	47 Colo	15	36N	턴	0096	14/1	35, 3	10.3	2,5	7	75	o C
Summitville	n 92	30	373	早	11500			1	18,2	12,2	1	
		1	Average	age for	drainage	<b>0</b>	35.3	70.3	3,2	1		
CONEJOS RIVER								L )	١	- - - 1		
River Springs	49 Colo, 25	25	33M	思	9300	1/1	32.9	2.6	4,2	1,6	12	7.1
	n 92	30	378	里	11500		`	;- `	18,2	12, 2		100
Cumbres Pass* #2	11 22	17	32W	E S	10000	3/29	65,3	21,6	15,2	10,7	13	25,2
			Average	ge for	drainage	<b>9</b>	12° 617	15,6	9,7	2,5		16,2
CULEBRA RIVER		*****	give pain				,					
Culebra	82 Colo.		37.2W	105.2W 10000	10000	1/1	41.3	13.7	11,4	4,5	6	10.9
			RTO G	CRAINDE 1	TRIBITED BIRS	PTEC TIME	ODIAHM MEN	<b>-</b>				
CHAMA RIVIR												
s #2	77 Colos	17	32N	3,9	10000	3/29	65,9	21,6		10,7	13	25,2
	15 "		28IN	月	9700		45,8	15.1		7,5	10	7,0
vide	17		36.9N	106°7W	7750	14/3	10,0	5,2		0	101	, W
Chamita	= 80		36.9N 106 Average	106,7W	8500 4 drainage	-	39.8	12,6	2,0	5,7		13,0
				_								
*On adjacent draihage	lage	•				•			-	•		

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-7-RIO GRANDE DRAIMAGE SNOW SURVEYS April 1, 1948

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	D + C	Av. Water	Content	THOUGH I	6.9	17,00	2000; In		125.57
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CTOTE OF	Vater		1048		6,6	15.03	10.7		15.5
		Snow	Depth (Inches)	NEW MEXICO	34.5	37,2 52,6 111,9	26.7 30.8 112.9 86.5	RIVIR	30,3 26,0 37,2 55,5 36,5
		Date	of Survey	百	4/1	4/1	4/1 4/1 2/28		4 4 / 1 4 / 1 4 / 1
		Elev.		TRIBUTARIES	9000	9000 10100 drainage	9100 8300 10000 8700 drainage	CAMADIAN	9500 9200 9000 10100 drainage
		Lange	or Long.	ANDE TRI	151	13日 13日 3e for	108 128 118 146 for		LON HOLD
M		Two.	or Lat	RIO GRANDE	25M	22M 22M Averag	18N 19N 18W 18W Average		26%   26%   22%   22%   22%   4verage
LOCATION		No. Sec.	and State		2 N.Mex. 10	12 N. Mex 23	4 N.Mex. 12 20 " 27 21 " 17 25 " 31		9 W. Wex, 8 10 " 25 12 " 23 19 " 22
		DRAINAGE BASIN	and SNOW COURSE	0.0 to	Taos Canyon	EMBUDO CREEK Tres Ritos Cordova	PECOS RIVER Aspen Grove* Panchuela #2 Big Tesuque* Gallinas		Hematite Park Ccate Mesa Tres Ritos* Cordova*

\*On adjacent drainage



The following organizations cooperate in the snow surveys and irrigation water supply forecasts for the Colorado, Missouri-Arkansas and Rio Grande watersheds by furnishing funds or services.

STATE

Colorado State Engineer
Wyoming State Engineer
Utah State Engineer
New Mexico State Engineer
Montana State Engineer
Nebraska State Engineer
Colorado Experiment Station
Colorado Extension Service
Montana Experiment Station
Utah Experiment Station

FEDERAL

Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Soil Conservation Service
Department of Interior

Bureau of Reclemation

Geological Survey
National Park Service
Department of Commerce

Weather Bureau War Department

Army Engineer Corps

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Colorado Public Service Company Western Colorado Power Company Montana Power Company Public Service Company of New Mexico

Denver and Rio Grande Western R. R. Comoany

MUNICIPALITIES

City of Bozeman City of Denver City of Boulder

WATER USERS ORGANIZATIONS

Poudre Valley Water Users' Association Arkansas Valley Ditch Association Colorado River Water Conscrution District

IRRIGATION PROJECTS
Farmers Reservoir and Irrigation Company
San Luis Valley Irrigation District

Santa Maria Reservoir Company

Costilla Land Company

Uncompangre Valley Water Users' Association

Wyoming Development Company Goshen Irrigation District

Kendrick Project

Pathfinder Irrigation District

Salt River Valley Water Users' Association San Carlos Irrigation and Drainage District

Twin Lakes Reservoir and Canal Company

Many other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for the snow survey reports. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

OHOUSE INTERNATIONAL RECORDS OF THE PROPERTY O